

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOL. X. NO. 12.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1892.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

A FIRE ORDINANCE.

PRESENTED TO THE TOWN COMMITTEE,
BUT LAID OVER FOR AMENDMENT.

The Committee Will Open Lincoln Place
—Progress in Road and Sidewalk Con-
struction—Work on the Sewer.

The members of the Township Committee have decided to take upon themselves the task of opening Lincoln Place in Glen Ridge. This proposed street runs parallel with Ridgewood Avenue from Washington Street to Lincoln Street, between Ridgewood Avenue and Douglas Road. It was laid out by the Surveyors of Highways about two years ago, but has never been opened as a public highway. The chief obstacle in the way of its opening has been the Rev. Dr. George C. Seibert, who owns property through which the street will run, and whose fence extends about two-thirds of the way across the street. Dr. Seibert refused to take down the fence or to permit any one else to do it. W. H. Dewitt, an interested property owner, appealed to the Town Committee at a previous meeting to open the street or to designate some legal way by which the property-owners could overcome the opposition of Dr. Seibert and open the street themselves. Town Council Barrett rendered an opinion to the Town Committee to the effect that they were not obliged to open the street, but that that duty was incumbent on the property-owners.

Lawyer Harry E. Richards was present at the meeting on Monday as counsel for the property-owners. Mr. Richards contended that it was absolutely necessary for the Committee to open the road when requested to do so by the Surveyors of Highways.

Mr. Stout said that he understood that it was not the duty of the Committee to open the road, and asked Mr. Barrett if such was not the case.

Mr. Barrett replied that such was the opinion given by him at a previous meeting, and he still maintained it. Mr. Barrett said that when the street had been opened and reduced to grade by the property-owners then the Committee could accept it. The statute required the Surveyors of Highways to lay out a street. The Township Committee could not open the street in the first instance before the Surveyors of Highways were called in, and could not afterward. Mr. Barrett quoted from the law under which the Surveyors of Highways acted, and cited the technicalities to be conformed to by the petitioning property-owners. Mr. Barrett said that if Dr. Seibert signed the petition for the street his rights are now subject to that street.

Mr. Richards contended that the powers formerly lodged in Overseers of the Highways, an office formerly in vogue in this town, are now vested in the members of the Town Committee, and it was their duty to carry out under the law the duties formerly devolving on the Overseers of the Highways. He read from the statute and cited precedents in which he claimed the courts upheld his view of the case.

Mr. Stout moved that the matter be referred back to the Legal Committee.

Mr. Beach opposed any further delay in the matter. He said the property-owners wanted the street opened and wanted it at once, he deemed it a matter of public policy to open it. The property at present only paid a tax on about \$200 per acre valuation; with the street open it would not be long before the valuation would be four or five thousand dollars per acre.

Mr. Beach questioned Mr. Barrett about the Committee's rights in the case, and Mr. Barrett conceded that the Committee had a legal right to open the street if they desired to do so.

Mr. Stout said that was a new view of the case to him; he had been under the impression that the Committee had no right on the premises at all. He withdrew his former motion, and moved to refer the matter to the Road Committee with power.

The Road Committee will open the street, and in the meantime Mr. Lockwood will wait upon Dr. Seibert and endeavor to prevail upon him to withdraw his opposition.

The Road Committee reported the macadamizing of North Broad Street completed to the Passaic County line, and a very satisfactory job done. They top-dressed about 500 feet of the road that was macadamized last year, but which was in bad condition. They reported that work was being done on Spruce Street, between Montgomery and Liberty Streets, and on Spruce Street north of Belleville Avenue.

The Sidewalk Committee reported that applications for about 6,600 feet of flagstone sidewalk were received up to date, 1,900 feet of which was laid. The Committee has about \$2,000 left to spend on sidewalks.

The Crosswalk Committee reported applications for ten crosswalks, four of which were laid. They recommended the laying of two crosswalks at the junction of Ridgewood and Linden Avenues, and one at Ridgewood Avenue and

Appleton Place, which recommendation was adopted.

Mr. Stout asked if any application had been made for a crosswalk at Winsor Place. He was informed there had not.

Mr. Gilbert suggested the junction of Orange Street and Bloomfield Avenue as a place very much in need of a crosswalk.

The Orange Water Company's bill of \$3,960 was presented for water service from 132 hydrants for six months, beginning January 1.

The Water Committee recommended the extension of the water main from Midland Avenue to Ridgewood, through Maclie Avenue, and the erection of an additional hydrant on the latter street. It was adopted.

Mr. Barrett reported that the property-owners on Park Place were ready to dedicate one foot of property along that street to the town. The dedication, it was stated, also included one foot of Samuel Baxter's property along that street. The Maps and Surveys Committee were directed to have a map of the property prepared.

The Sewer Committee presented a bill from the city of Orange, amounting to \$4,451, being this town's proportionate share of the expense of the work done on the outlet sewer up to July 1. The following letter accompanied the bill:

Mr. E. A. RAYNER: MY DEAR SIR—In the absence of any authority from your Committee to send a statement of moneys due from Bloomfield to Orange, under the agreement to construct the outlet sewer, to any special township officer, I send the statement to you.

There have been expended on the outlet line below the junction of Newark Avenue and Franklin Street, Bloomfield, up to July 1, 1892, approximately \$21,442.29, as indicated on the accompanying estimate sheet. There are some few scattering bills not here included, but they are unimportant; they will be submitted next month.

Bloomfield's share in this expense is determined by the ratio of 3,000,000 gallons (the capacity elected by the 5 parties to the agreement, viz.: 7,200,000 by Orange, 4,250,000 by Montclair, and 3,000,000 by Bloomfield). Expressed as a percentage, Bloomfield's share is 29.76 per cent. of the total expended, or \$4,451.

This amount under contract is due within fifteen days.

CARROL PH. BASSETT.

Mr. Rayner offered a resolution authorizing the giving of the township note in payment of the bill in anticipation of the issuing of sewer bonds. The resolution was adopted. Mr. Rayner was designated as the person to whom communications relating to the sewer should be addressed. Bloomfield and Montclair will unite in the cost of employing a competent engineer to verify the sewer construction bills as to the quantity of work done and as to whether it is done in accordance with the specifications.

The Fire Committee reported that Assessor Baxter had prepared and furnished a list of the number of exempt firemen. The number of firemen exempt is 75 and the valuation of property exempt is 350.

The Fire Committee introduced the fire ordinance which has been a long while in preparation. It is very comprehensive in its scope and shows evidence of much study and care in the framing of it. It was referred back to the Fire Committee for amendment of that portion relating to out-of-town members.

Under the ordinance the membership of the Truck Company is limited to thirty-six and each of the hose companies to twenty-one. At least two-thirds of the membership of each company must be persons who are in town day and night. Members must have a yearly average duty record of 50 per cent. This clause of the ordinance led to a long discussion.

It was manifest that if "out-of-town" was to be taken as an excuse. A number of members would possess an unfair advantage over others.

To equalize matters Mr. Stout proposed that the "out-of-town" members be requested to show a record of 75 per cent. of duty at night fires.

The ordinance will serve to bring the Bloomfield Volunteer Fire Department under perfect discipline. No change has been made in the working rules of the department.

The Clerk was directed to write to the Newark Passenger Railway Company and request them to improve the service on the Bloomfield division. It was not stated what particular improvement was desired, but it is presumed there is too long an interval between cars, and passengers are compelled to undergo a long and tiresome wait at the car stands.

The company asked permission some time ago to apply the trolley system to their cars on Bloomfield Avenue, and also to extend their tracks to the Montclair line.

Representatives of the company said that as soon as the Orange branch was in good working order attention would be given to the Bloomfield Avenue branch.

Messrs. Stout, Oakes and Beach sharply criticized the bill presented by Publisher J. M. Unanet for advertising the tax sales. The bill amounted to \$75, and was properly certified to by Tax Collector A. C. Marr. When it was explained to the Committee that the charge of \$1 for each name was fixed by statute and that the charge was assessed against the property sold, a different view of the matter was taken, and the bill ordered paid.

A letter from Thomas N. McCarter, counsel for the Lehigh Valley Railroad, was read, relating to the Montgomery Street bridge. It was stated that owing to the recent alliance of the Lehigh Valley Company with the Philadelphia and Reading Company a change had been made in the management of affairs and it would be well for the Committee to submit a statement in writing of just what was needed at Montgomery Street, and what portion of the expense of the township would bear in the construction of a new bridge. The matter was referred to Messrs. Stout and Oakes, the special committee to whom the Montgomery Street bridge matter had been referred.

Special sale of Russet Shoes at Shoenthal's.—*Advt.*

PAUPER PATIENTS.

The Township Will Pay for Their Care at the Mountainside Hospital.

Samuel Olden, an inmate of the Montclair Poor House, has been a patient in the Mountainside Hospital over a year.

Ann Snyder, an inmate of the Bloomfield Poor House, fell and broke her leg. She was taken to the Mountainside Hospital, and a bill amounting to \$73.50 for her care at the hospital was presented to Poormaster Voorhees. The bill came in at the end of the year, and Mr. Voorhees wrote to the hospital association informing them that as soon as the new Committee was ready for business the bill would be paid. When the bill was presented to the Town Committee Mr. Stout objected to its present payment and had it laid over. Mr. Stout objected on the ground that it was uncertain whether other townships interested in the hospital paid anything for the care of their pauper patients at the hospital. He did not consider it fair to charge one town and not charge another.

The Hospital Association has presented a bill to the Montclair Town Committee for the care of Samuel Olden, and it has been referred to a sub-committee to investigate, and this same committee has been authorized to arrange with the hospital folks for the care of Montclair's pauper patients in the future, presumably on a fixed weekly charge.

There does not seem to be any doubt but that that was an economical move on the part of Overseer Voorhees in placing Mrs. Snyder in the hospital, for to give her injuries the medical care required would have cost considerably more if the Township Physician had cared for her at the poor-house in Brookdale.

The relation of the town to the hospital in the matter of caring for pauper patients was the subject of a prolonged discussion at the Township Committee meeting last Monday. Some of the members were of the opinion that as long as all the townships were treated alike it was the proper thing to pay for town patients. Others of the Committee disagreed with them and thought it would bring the hospital more in touch with the public if the poor were treated free.

Mr. Hummel suggested that the town endow two or more beds at the hospital to be reserved for town patients. This plan was pronounced infeasible.

Mr. Stout said that at a recent meeting with the managers of the hospital he had proposed the plan of an annual appropriation, but that Judge Dodd was of the opinion that it could not be done.

Mr. Beach said that patients received at the hospital were asked if they were able to pay, or if friends would pay for them, and if such was the case a charge was made.

It seems very likely that both Bloomfield and Montclair will compensate the hospital association for the care of patients sent there from the almshouses of the respective towns.

The Bloomfield Cyclers Reorganized.

About twenty-five wheelmen assembled at the belt factory of James Crip & Co., on Bloomfield Avenue, last Tuesday night, in response to a call issued, to form a bicycle club. Howard B. Davis was elected chairman and William L. Johnson secretary. A temporary organization was effected, and nearly thirty were enrolled as members. Various committees were appointed, and it was decided to hold another meeting next Monday night, when the club will be permanently organized and officers elected. All wheelmen in this vicinity are cordially invited to attend and become members.

It is probable that the organization will be styled the Bloomfield Cyclers. After the meeting had adjourned on Tuesday night about a dozen of the wheelmen enjoyed a short run through Montclair.

The question, then, is asked: Would it not be better to stick to the old custom of keeping all the churches open, so that all stay-at-home church-goers might have the privilege of going to their own churches, even though the congregation does dwindle to a mere handful?

Fairview People Complain of a Nuisance.

Fairview residents complain of a nuisance existing on the lower part of Newark Avenue, just over the Belleville line. A large quantity of fertilizer has been dumped on the ground to the great annoyance of the neighborhood.

Appeals have been made to Health Inspector Corby, but he says the nuisance is out of his jurisdiction. Complaint will now be made to the Belleville health authorities, with a request to have the nuisance abated.

Home, Sweet Home, at Midnight.

Residents near the Centre have been treated to an accordion recital at about twelve o'clock every night for the past week. The artist's repertoire consists of "Home, Sweet Home." It is rumored that he was one of the excursionists to the Delaware Water Gap on Tuesday, and had the pleasure of running up against one of the many flim-flam games there.

Struck by an Electric Car.

Constable B. F. Baldwin of No. 109 Franklin Street, while at work on a house at No. 49 Webster Street, Newark, last Friday, had a valuable watch and chain stolen from his vest, which he had left hanging in one of the rooms.

Harry Van Clef, who resides in the house, was suspected of the theft and was arrested by Detective Hill and locked up in the Second Precinct police station, where he confessed to the stealing. The watch and chain were recovered in a pawn-shop.

Officer Foster and the Peddler.

A Hebrew vendor of neckties, etc., gave Officer Foster, who wished to ascertain whether he had a license or not, a lively chase on Thursday afternoon.

After a long run, however, the officer, who wears a No. 10 shoe and is the champion sprinter of Active Hose Company, caught the peddler and took him before Justice Hall. The fellow begged so hard to be released that the Justice discharged him with a warning.

To Petition for Macadam.

The East Orange officials will macadamize Westcott Street to the Bloomfield line. The property owners on the Bloomfield portion of Westcott Street and on Thornton Street will request the Town Committee of this town to continue the macadam to Prospect Street a distance of about 400 feet.

Fell From a Window.

The following are the best bowling scores made at the Newark City Ice Company of this place driven by Bernard Canfield of Bloomfield Avenue was struck by car No. 44 of the electric line in Orange on Monday. The wagon was damaged considerably and one of the mules injured. The Traction Company will no doubt pay for the damage done.

Will Celebrate Their Tenth Anniversary.

The tenth anniversary of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 570, will be held in the lodge-room on Glenwood Avenue, on Friday evening, August 5. There will be singing and recitations by the Bloomfield Glee Club and a quartette from the "Jolly Five." Refreshments will be served by Brother A. Day at the conclusion of the entertainment.

Bowling Scores.

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Drained Their Wells.

The property owners on Willett and Jones Streets complain that their wells are being drained by the steam pump of the Sewer Construction Co. on Montgomery Avenue.

Don't let your lawns burn, but use tobacco and sulphur lawn fertilizer.

Notice Shoenthal's new advertisement on page 4.—*Advt.*

Special sale of Russet Shoes at Shoenthal's.—*Advt.*

PASTORS' VACATIONS.

A Correspondent Objects to Closing the Churches During the Warm Weather.

An arrangement has been entered into by which Westminster Church will be closed during the last three Sundays of August, the congregation uniting with that of the First Presbyterian Church, and during September the First Church will be closed and its congregation will worship in the Westminster Church.

The Rev. George A. Paul will take a somewhat longer vacation than usual this year. He and Mrs. Paul sail for Scotland this afternoon, and will travel during their absence in that country, visiting the various points of interest, and will return in time for Mr. Paul to preach on the 4th of September. The Rev. Dr. Ballantine will be away during September, and will spend his vacation with his family in the White Mountains.

A correspondent writes as follows on the question of closing churches during the heated spell:

"While it has been the custom from time immemorial for many of the churches in the cities and in neighboring villages to be closed during some portion of the hot weather, it has been to the credit of Bloomfield that all of her churches, for a good many years at any rate, have remained open every Sunday in the year. The pastors have had vacations every summer, to be sure, and it is perfectly right that they should, but there has always been preaching in the churches, and the stay-at-homes have had the satisfaction of attending church in their accustomed places of worship.

"There is a serious question in the minds of many as to the advisability of closing any of the churches. The only reason which can be given for such a course is that the congregations dwindle to very small proportions during hot weather, and that by uniting two congregations one of respectable size will be the result. (Of course the question of expense does not enter into the matter at all.)

"There are many people accustomed to attend church at the 'Old Church' who live at too great a distance from Westminster to go there; and vice-versa.

"With one church closed in August and the other in September, these people will be deprived of the pleasure and profit of attending church for two months. Others there are who attend quite regularly at one church, and who will stop going altogether the minute that church is closed, never under any circumstances, for reasons best known to themselves, going to any other church.

"The question, then, is asked: Would it not be better to stick to the old custom of keeping all the churches open, so that all stay-at-home church-goers might have the privilege of going to their own churches, even though the congregation does dwindle to a mere handful?"

Essex Listens to a Sermon.

Last Sunday evening the active members of Essex Hook and Ladder Company, accompanied by a large number of honorary members, marched in a body to the First Presbyterian Church, and listened to a sermon delivered by the Rev. Dr. H. W. Ballantine, chaplain of the company. In the course of the sermon Mr. Ballantine said he had heard a man sneeringly ask, "What need has a fire company for a chaplain?" He mentioned the fact that Congress, State Legislatures, and other public bodies had chaplains, and were not criticized for it.

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